



## City Administrator Monthly Update August 2013

By City Administrator Mike Story



### Administration

#### Notice of City Offices Closed

City offices will be closed Monday, September 2, in honor of Labor Day.



### City Clerk/Management Services

#### Healthy Rialto

- Healthy Rialto received a \$15,000 Grant from Kaiser Foundation Hospitals Fontana for Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) in the Rialto Community targeting senior citizens and obese/overweight residents.
- Healthy Rialto Kids – “Tennis Under 10 Program” will complete its first session on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Certificates of Completion will be given out and kids will be passed to the next level. Many of the youth are excited to continue this program. Phase II will begin on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.
- Rialto Market Night - As part of the Healthy Rialto campaign, the City of Rialto will be hosting Market Night. Located at Rialto City Hall, 150 S. Palm Avenue, local vendors will be selling a variety of goods from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm on the following dates:

Wednesday, August 28  
Wednesday, September 25  
Wednesday, October 23

Come on out and experience a family-friendly atmosphere, and discover what our local farmers and merchants have to offer!



- Healthy Rialto is co-sponsoring the Bike Ride/Bike Rodeo with Enhancing Forward Action on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 am to 11:00 am, at Rialto City Hall. Kids ages 3 to 12 will learn bike safety and skills through games and activities. There will be helmet checks and healthy resources and information.

#### Economic Heartbeat of Rialto

Mayor Deborah Robertson's Economic Heartbeat of Rialto can be seen on the Rialto Network, Channels 3 and 99. It is also available on live stream via the city's web site, [www.rialtoca.gov](http://www.rialtoca.gov). This show is an in depth interview with local Rialto businesses.

## Administrative & Community Services

### Human Resources

#### Blood Drive and Marrow Screening

The City of Rialto Human Resources Department will be hosting a Blood Drive on Thursday, August 22, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The Bloodmobile will be located in the south parking lot of City Hall, 150 S. Palm Avenue. For every donation, participants will receive a coupon for two free tacos, courtesy of Jack-in-the-Box, a VIP pass for two to the Ontario Improv, free cholesterol screening, and points as part of the "Gift of Life" Donor Loyalty Program. Be sure to drink plenty of fluids prior to donating, and bring photo identification with you. For more information contact Paula Mohan, 909-421-4939.



#### Job Fair

*Partnership between San Bernardino Valley College, Pathway from Boys to Men, Southwestern Vocational College, Cathedral of Praise, and City of Rialto.*

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2013

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location: Cathedral of Praise - 1521 S. Riverside Ave., Rialto, CA 92376

More information will be forthcoming.

### Recreation

#### The Fundamental Travel-Ball Team Takes the Gold

Rialto's own Fundamentals travel-ball team captured championships in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> boys and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls division. The AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) national tournament in Anaheim featured from Northern California, Arizona and Illinois. The Fundamentals travel-ball program is comprised of players from The City of Rialto's own Recreation League. The Fundamentals travel ball emphasizes the importance of a being a student athlete. We are extremely proud of Rialto's own Fundamentals basketball program.



#### Cool Off and Have Fun at the Tom Sawyer Pool

The Tom Sawyer Pool also offers recreation swim for the whole family. We offer several 2 hour sessions for everyone to swim and cool off throughout the week. Our lifeguards have experienced high volumes of recreation swimmers this summer. Not only are the lifeguards there in case of an emergency, but through their training are confident and pro-active in preventing any injuries or accidents from happening.



## Adult Basketball Returns to Rialto!



Adult Basketball is back in the City of Rialto on Sunday evenings from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We have 6 teams this summer season competing for Johnson Center supremacy. The teams are from Rialto, San Bernardino, Riverside, and one team is made of Rialto youth basketball league coaches. The adult basketball league has proved to be a great way for families to gather and support the physical activity of their parents and friends. Adult basketball will take place year-round and will be just one of the items on the expanding Adult Sports menu.

## Share Your Talents and Earn Extra Income!

The Rialto Recreation and Community Services division is currently seeking instructors to expand the selection of fee-based special interest classes offered to the Rialto community. If you have a special talent and want to earn extra income teaching it to others, then come and partner with us! We will provide and maintain facilities, handle registration, and provide direct mail advertising to 32,000 residential and business addresses! Call 421-4949 and ask for Jessica Perez.

## **Police Department**

### **Coffee with the Chief**



"Coffee with the Chief" offers Rialto residents an opportunity to personally meet their Police Chief and other representatives in a casual setting. Please join Chief Tony Farrar for "Coffee with the Chief" Tuesday August 13, 2013 at Coffee Nutzz Rialto, 119 E Foothill Blvd., 8:00 am to 9:00 am.

### **Follow Rialto PD on**

**facebook**

Facebook allows law enforcement to connect with their communities, post news and alerts, investigate and even solve crimes using information they collect through the site. It's a great way to get feedback, hear opinions, and engage in dialogue with the community you serve. Keep up with what's happening in your community. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/RialtoPD>.

### **Reminder – Signup for NIXLE**

**NIXLE** is a free service that allows community members to receive trusted, up-to-the-minute, neighborhood information for where you live, work, visit – or for where your family and friends are located throughout the country. You choose the information you want, for the locations you want, from urgent public safety alerts to less time sensitive advisories and community information. You choose how you want to receive the



information, whether it's over your cell phone by text message, by email, over the web, or all of the above. You stay connected to what is happening in the community at locations that are relevant to you. Check out our website for more!

## **Public Safety Memorial Dedication Ceremony**

On Thursday, July 4, 2013, PD Staff attended a memorial dedication ceremony hosted by the City of Beaumont. The ceremony was to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice serving in a public safety capacity – and being residents of the City of Beaumont. Several were honored including Officer Sergio Carrera and former Rialto Officer Jermaine Gibson.

## **City Bike Rodeo Event**

On Saturday, August 17, 2013 the Police Department will be participating in the City Bike Rodeo. This event will be held at Rialto City Hall from 7:30 am to 11:00 am. Come and meet the Police Department's Bike Patrol Officers. For more information please contact Corporal Cameron Nelson at 909-820-2515 or email to [cnelson@rialtopd.com](mailto:cnelson@rialtopd.com).



## **DUI Checkpoint – Office of Traffic Safety**

On Friday, July 26, 2013, the Police Departments Traffic Unit conducted a DUI checkpoint. Four arrests were made for DUI and 4 others were arrested for warrants along with one weapons violation arrest. This checkpoint was sponsored by the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

## **Police Department Citizen Academy**

In February-May 2013, the Police Department hosted its 11-week Citizens Academy. The academy encompassed 38 presenters, 33 hours of instruction, and graduated 25 students. Applications are now being accepted for the next Citizen Academy class set to begin in September 2013.

The Citizen's Academy is designed to present residents with an understanding of the Police Department's operations, which will provide a greater awareness and understanding of law enforcement's role in our community. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Lieutenant Kathy Thompson at 909-820-2560 or email to [kthompson@rialtopd.com](mailto:kthompson@rialtopd.com).

## **National Night Out Against Crime – 2013**



National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The event will be held at the City Civic Center (Willow Ave/Palm Ave – between First Street and Rialto Avenue). Come out and meet the members of your Police Department! For more information, please contact Corporal Cameron Nelson at 909-820-2515 or email to [cnelson@rialtopd.com](mailto:cnelson@rialtopd.com).

## **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Criminology Conference – University of Cambridge**

The Society of Evidence-Based Policing presented its 2013 Award of Excellence in Evidence-Based Policing to Chief Tony Farrar at the 2013 Conference on Evidence-Based Policing at the University of Cambridge (UK) in July. The award is given annually for outstanding policing research that advances the evidence base in policing and informs police practice.

Chief Farrar's extensive yearlong study evaluated the effect of body-worn video cameras on police use-of-force and citizen complaints. This randomized controlled trial represents the first experimental evaluation of body-worn video cameras used in police patrol practices. Cameras were deployed to all patrol officers in the Rialto (CA) Police Department.



The [Society of Evidence-Based Policing](#) is a group of police practitioners and researchers who are committed to producing, implementing, and disseminating evidence-based policing research that can positively impact communities. The Annual Award for Excellence in Evidence-Based Policing is given to an individual or organization that has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in this area.

### **Department Hosted Training**

In an ongoing effort to not only invest in our own employees, but to facilitate regional training beneficial to all of law enforcement, the department hosted the following training classes:

Surveillance and Covert Operations	16-hours
Advanced Informant Management	16-hours
Investigative Interview and Interrogation	40 hours
Teamwork and Leadership	10 hours
It's Not Just Customer Service	10 hours
Crisis Communications	10 hours
Chemical Suicide	10 hours

### **National K-9 Conference October 2013**

The Rialto Police Department will be hosting the National Police Canine Association's last national K-9 Conference in October 2013. The NPCA will then only have regional trainings and conferences. The conference/training will be held at various training sites throughout the City. The dates for this event are October 7-11, 2013.

### **New Department Employees**

Please welcome the department's newest employees: Officer's Garret Riddell, Michael Kushner, Carlos Ramirez, and Anthony Glass; Emergency Dispatchers Lindsay Mendenhall and Mindy Nuno; and Records Assistant Deborah Faler.

### **Area Command Meetings**

Area #1 – Saturday September 14, 2013, 1:00-2:30 pm at Sunrise Church - 2759 N. Ayala Avenue

Area #2 – Wednesday September 18, 2013, 7:00-8:30 pm at Valley Fellowship Church - 275 E. Grove Street

Area #3 – Saturday October 5, 2013, 7:00-8:30 pm at Bloomington Christian High School - 955 S. Bloomington Avenue



Area #4 – Monday October 28, 2013, 7:00-8:30 pm at St. Catherine's Church - 339 N. Sycamore Avenue

## Fire Department

### New Firefighters



Sixteen new Paramedic/Firefighters started their journey as members of the Rialto Fire Department on July 15<sup>th</sup>. This group was picked after an extensive process of testing and background investigations, and we believe we have found the best of the best to serve our community. The new firefighters will complete six weeks of extensive training on the Rialto Fire Department's policies, procedures, and equipment. Once they have successfully completed the training, they will staff additional emergency resources for the City that will improve response times and increase effectiveness in meeting our mission of service. Twelve of the firefighters are funded through a federal grant that will cover all of their wages and benefits for a period of two years.

### RFD Badge Pinning Ceremony

In keeping with a tradition of celebrating the milestones in our employee's careers, the RFD will be holding a Badge Pinning Ceremony on August 22, 2013 at 4:30 pm, at Rialto Middle School. The ceremony is a great opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our personnel, and the new roles and challenges that each of them will be taking on. Each employee will be officially "pinned" with the badge of their new position by one of their family members, symbolizing the important role that others have played in their career progression. This year, we will be celebrating the positions of 23 of our employees, including the 16 new Paramedic/Firefighters that were just hired.



### Fill the Boot Tribute



On June 30, 2013, 19 firefighters from the Granite Mountain Hotshot crew from Prescott, AZ, lost their lives while fighting the Yarnell Hill fire. This represents one of the heaviest losses of firefighter's lives in the history of wildland firefighting. Deepening the tragedy is the fact that the collective loss resulted in over 50 children that are left without a father. Although we cannot begin to heal all the wounds of this horrific event, the process can begin with support of our community. To this end, the Rialto Firefighters hosted a "Fill the Boot" event on August 3, 2013 located at Riverside Avenue and the I-210 Freeway from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. "Filling the Boot" is a traditional fire service approach for raising funds for worthy causes. The firefighters were at the intersection with their firefighter boots in hand to collect any amount that the community was willing to give. Our firefighters have also coordinated the event with other fire departments in the area who conducted their "Boot Filling" in their respective cities. All of the funds will be compiled and delivered to the Prescott Fire Department, where a fund has been established for the families.

If you were not in the area on Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>, you can contribute by bringing or sending your donation to Rialto Fire Department Headquarters at 131 S. Willow Ave. Rialto CA. 92376. Checks can be made out to Rialto Professional Firefighters Local 3688.

### **Rialto Crews Assist in Suppressing the “Mountain” Fire**

One of the largest fire of the season so far occurred in the in the San Jacinto Mountains near Idyllwild on July 15<sup>th</sup>. As part of the State Mutual Aid system, Rialto Brush Engine 204 responded to assist with the fight. The fire burned over 27,000 acres of dense vegetation in rugged terrain, and posed distinct challenges for firefighters. Our firefighters made a strong contribution to the firefighting effort, and although 23 structures were destroyed, crews were able to keep the fire from reaching densely populated areas. The fire was 100% contained on July 29<sup>th</sup>. As part of the mutual system, the costs associated with sending our personnel and equipment will be 100% reimbursed by state and federal agencies.



### **Safe Summer Fun**



Some of the hallmarks of summer include great weather, friends, and backyard barbecues. Outdoor grilling can be tasty, but like any other process that uses an open flame, injuries and damage can occur if you are not careful. Knowing a few fire safety tips and following instructions will help everyone have a safe summer.

#### Use Barbecue Grills Safely

- Never leave a barbecue grill unattended.
- Place the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Don't use or store on a porch or balcony.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area. Have a 3-foot "kid-free zone" around the grill.
- Put out several long-handled grilling tools to give the chef plenty of clearance from heat and flames when cooking food.
- Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.
- Use only outdoors! If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, barbecue grills pose both a fire hazard and a risk of exposing occupants to carbon monoxide.




#### Charcoal Grills

- Purchase the proper starter fluid and store out of reach of children and away from heat sources.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited, and never use any flammable liquid other than charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going.
- Dispose of charcoal coals only after they are cool. Empty the coals into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid that is used only to



collect coals. Place the container away from anything that can burn. Never empty coals directly into a trash can.

For more information on barbeque safety, watch the video produced by U.S. Fire Administrations at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gk2qrBOYtSY>, or contact the Rialto Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau at (909) 820-2501.

**Rialto Fire Department is on Facebook** 

Don't forget, you can get up-to-the-minute updates and information about the Rialto Fire Department on our Facebook page.

Join us at: <https://www.facebook.com/rialtofiredepartment>.

## Development Services Department

### In-N-Out Burger Progress Report - Chipotle to Follow?

In-N-Out Burger expects to open its Rialto store on Riverside Avenue, just south of the 210 Freeway around Labor Day. Construction crews are busy finishing the building improvements with fixtures and equipment soon to follow.



*In-N-Out Burger installed its familiar logo and anticipates a Labor Day grand opening.*

The City approved a memorandum of understanding with an exclusive developer of Chipotle stores to locate adjacent to In-N-Out Burger on a 30,000± square foot pad. The developer intends to construct a 4,500 square foot retail module that will accommodate Chipotle and one other retail or restaurant tenant. The terms of the transaction must now be developed in a purchase and sale agreement and submitted to the City Council for consideration. Because all of the site improvements and utilities have already been installed, construction can be completed in 90 days or less once started.

### Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market Coming to Rialto

Wal-Mart announced that it will open a Neighborhood Market in Rialto later this year. Located within the Rialto Towne Plaza at the intersection of Baseline Road and Willow Avenue, the store will fill the former Regency Theater space and help revitalize the



shopping center. The new store will provide a convenient grocery shopping option for Rialto residents.

Wal-Mart Neighborhood Markets feature a wide variety of products, including fresh produce, meats and dairy products, frozen foods, dry goods and staples, deli foods, bakery items, canned and packaged goods, condiments and spices, pet supplies, household supplies and a pharmacy. The Neighborhood Market occupies approximately 36,000 square feet and will generate approximately 65 job opportunities.

The Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market will utilize energy-efficient technology and environmentally friendly features to reduce energy and water consumption. Highly efficient low-flow toilets and faucets will reduce the water used in the restrooms. The store will also operate recycling programs and promote sustainable product purchases.

### **Superior Court Rules in Rialto's Favor on Second Lawsuit**

On July 1, 2013 the Superior Court for San Bernardino rendered a judgment in favor of the City of Rialto related to its approval of a Wal-Mart Supercenter in July, 2008. The *Rialto Citizens for Responsible Growth* challenged the City's approval of a conditional development permit and lot split, on the basis that the City failed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Judge Donald Alvarez relied on the appellate court's earlier ruling that Rialto complied with CEQA in its approval of the Wal-Mart Supercenter Project, and rejected all of the plaintiff's arguments related to the subsequent approval of a conditional development permit and a lot split.

This is the second victory for the City of Rialto in this matter. The City now awaits the plaintiff's decision whether it will appeal the Superior Court Judgment. The plaintiff has 60 days from the date of the recorded judgment to decide whether to appeal.

Wal-Mart has moved forward with off-site improvement planning based upon the appellate court's ruling in December, 2012 but has withheld investment in the construction drawings for the store, pending resolution of this second (and, hopefully final) lawsuit.

### **Planning Commission Summary for July**

The Planning Commission reviewed the following projects:

- **Variance No. 700.** A request by Tacos El Gavilan for a variance to reduce the required building setback for the development of a 4,443 square restaurant at 115 E. Baseline Road. The restaurant will replace the auto repair facility that has operated out of the converted gas station.
- **Environmental Assessment Review No. 13-20/Tentative Tract Map No. 19463.** A request by Panattoni Development Company to approve an Addendum to the Renaissance Specific Plan EIR and a Tentative Tract Map allowing construction of a 763,640 square foot warehouse on the north side of Baseline Road between Maple Avenue and Linden Avenue.

## New Businesses in July

The City welcomed the following businesses to Rialto. The City will send each of these new businesses a welcome letter and a statement of appreciation for choosing Rialto as their business home.

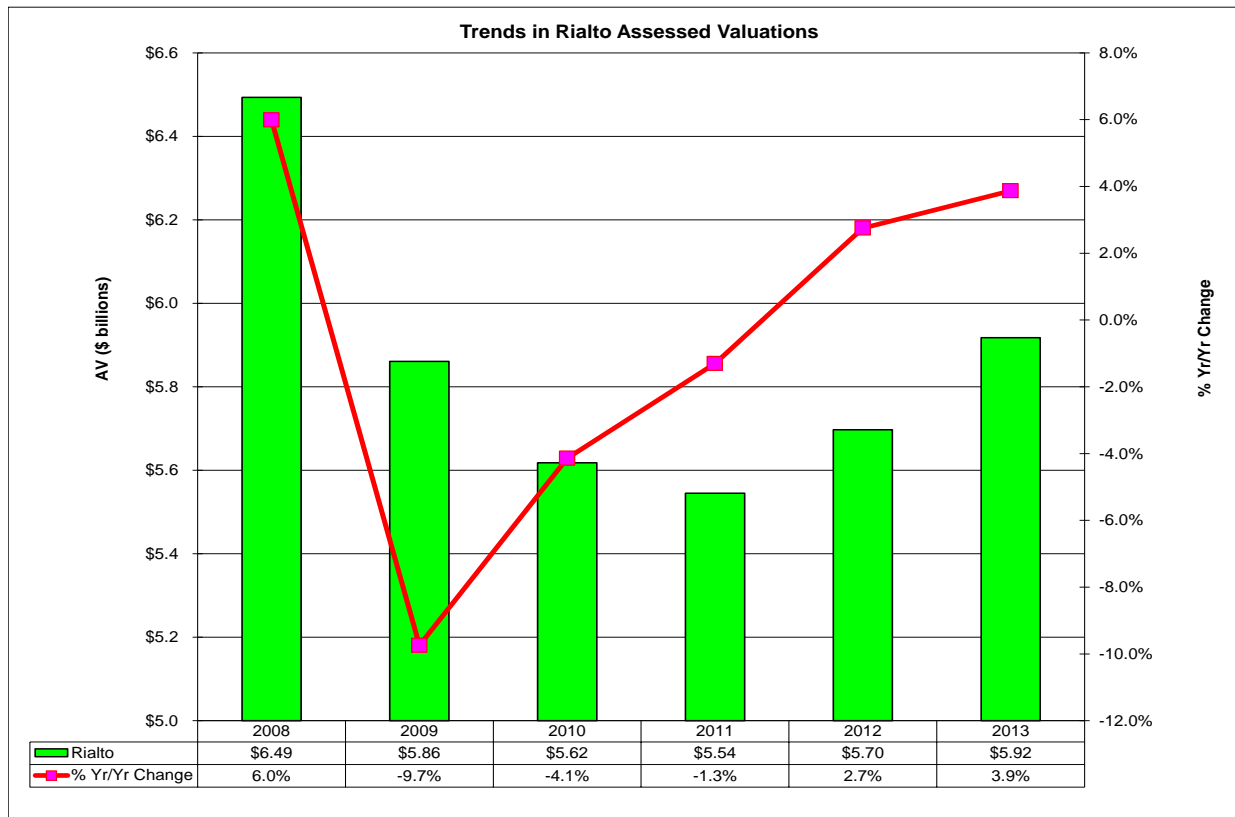
Business Name	Address	Goods/Service
• One Stop Test Only	630 West Rialto #B8	Smog Check
• 4 Tune and Smog Test Only	2610 South Riverside #A	Auto General Repair
• Nelly Nails	118 East Foothill #B2	Nail Salon
• Tim Douglas State Farm	241 East Baseline	Insurance
• Blythe's Spirit Design Center	2026 North Riverside #G	Gift Store
• Larach Insurance Service	216 West Baseline	Insurance
• Yu's Jewelry Repair & Piercing	200 West Foothill #C1	Jewelry
• Thrifty Pawn	232 South Riverside	Pawn Shop
• Echo Smog	1377 South Lilac #104	Smog Check
• Three Star Barber & Beauty	425 West Foothill #B	Barber Shop
• Fast & Furious	546 West First #2	Auto General Repair

## Rialto Assessed Values Increase by 3.9% for 2013

The Great Recession decimated Inland Empire real estate values and caused assessed valuations to decline for three consecutive years from 2009-2011. Rialto assessed values declined by a total of 15% over that period. In another sign that the economy is improving, the County Assessor's Office reported that assessed values for Rialto increased by 3.9% over 2012, the second straight year of growth. This growth rate was the third highest reported for any city within San Bernardino County. Countywide values advanced at a rate of 3.0% over 2012.

Total assessed values in Rialto now stand at \$5.9 billion. At its peak in 2008, the City recorded a total assessed valuation of \$6.5 billion, so the City still needs approximately \$600 million in assessed valuation growth to recover what it lost in the recession. The trend, however, is at least moving in the right direction again.

Assessed valuations establish the basis for the levy of property taxes. Generally, property owners pay 1% of the assessed valuation in property taxes, excluding special taxes for school bonds, water district debt repayment, and the like. Of the 1% property tax rate, the City of Rialto receives approximately 14% for general municipal services. For example, a home assessed at \$200,000 will produce \$2,000 per year in property taxes (1%), of which the County Tax Collector allocates just \$280 to the City of Rialto. The balance of \$1,720 goes to support schools, courts, and other governmental services.



## State Reports “Savings” due to Redevelopment Dissolution

The State of California reported the amount of funds taken from redevelopment agencies statewide (the “Residuals”) and the portion of that amount distributed to various taxing districts such as schools, cities and counties. The following table shows that local area cities paid \$329 million to the County Tax Collector as a consequence of redevelopment’s dissolution. Of that, only \$29.4 million remained with the cities; the balance was distributed to schools, the County, water districts and other taxing districts.

Rialto surrendered \$23.2 million, the third-largest Residual amount for the ten cities illustrated, trailing only Rancho Cucamonga (\$200.4 million) and Ontario (\$23.8 million). The Residuals basically represent the cash seized by the State through the audit of unencumbered funds -- and due to the release of annual property taxes no longer allocated to repay former Redevelopment Agency obligations.

Cities receive a share of the Residuals, generally approximating their share of the property tax rate. The City of Rialto General Fund recovered \$3.8 million of the \$23.8 million, or approximately 16%. The various city shares ranged from a low of 4% (Fontana) to a high of 23% (Highland). Generally, low property tax rate cities such as Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga have suffered the greatest loss of revenue due to the dissolution of redevelopment.

**Summary of Residual Payments as a result of RDA Dissolution**  
(all figures in \$millions)

City	Total Residual	City Recovery	Net City Loss	City % Share of Residual
Colton	\$17.3	\$2.9	-\$14.4	17%
Fontana	\$32.0	\$1.4	-\$30.6	4%
Grand Terrace	\$3.9	\$0.9	-\$3.0	23%
Highland	\$17.4	\$4.2	-\$13.2	24%
Loma Linda	\$2.4	\$0.3	-\$2.1	13%
Ontario	\$23.8	\$4.2	-\$19.6	18%
Rancho Cucamonga	\$200.4	\$10.0	-\$190.4	5%
Redlands	\$2.6	\$0.6	-\$2.0	23%
Rialto	\$23.2	\$3.8	-\$19.4	16%
San Bernardino	<u>\$6.0</u>	<u>\$1.1</u>	<u>-\$4.9</u>	<u>18%</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$329.0</b>	<b>\$29.4</b>	<b>-\$299.6</b>	<b>9%</b>

**Upcoming Foreclosure Prevention and Homebuyer Events Scheduled for August**

Two foreclosure prevention workshops are scheduled for homeowners struggling to pay their mortgages. The first is scheduled for August 10, 2013 and the second on August 24, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services, a HUD-certified housing counselor, will conduct the workshops, to be held at 320 West "G" Street, Suite 103, Ontario, CA 91762. More information can be obtained by calling NPHS at (909) 988-5979 or going to [www.nphousingservices.org](http://www.nphousingservices.org).

For buyers interested in purchasing a home, two homebuyer education events will be held in San Bernardino on August 17, 2013 and August 24, 2013. Neighborhood Housing Services Inland Empire, also a HUD-certified housing counselor, will host the event. Both events begin at 9:00 am, end at 4:00 pm, and will be held at the NHSIE HomeOwnership Center, 1400 North "D" Street, San Bernardino. Additional information can be obtained by calling 884-6891 or by going to [www.nhsie.org](http://www.nhsie.org).

**Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Foreclosed Homes Program Ending**

Since 2009, the City has acquired, rehabilitated and resold 66 single-family homes in response to the home foreclosure crisis. The Acquisition/Rehabilitation and Resale ("ARR") program was funded with two separate federal grants under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program ("NSP"). The grants totaled \$7.5 million.

The City expended \$6.3 million to acquire the 66 single-family homes, then spent approximately \$3.1 million (an average of \$47,000 per home) for rehabilitation, and a total of \$1.0 million for down payment assistance. In addition, about \$1.3 million was expended for the West Jackson Phase 2 Multi-Family Revitalization project and another \$1.2 million for the West Jackson Phase 3 project.



The last ARR home sold in July, 2013 for \$170,000. The property at 141 N. Pine was destroyed in a fire. The City initiated receivership action due to a non-responsive owner to correct severe health and safety code violations. The City acquired the home for \$25,000 and then expended \$100,000 for rehabilitation that included adding a third bedroom and second bathroom.



*Before and after photos of the property at 141 North Pine Avenue. The NSP Program acquired and substantially rehabilitated this property for resale to a new moderate-income homebuyer.*

Due to the improving housing market and declining home foreclosures, it has been a challenge to purchase vacant or abandoned homes. About \$400,000 of the second NSP grant remains unexpended. Funds need to be expended by March 2014 or they will revert to the federal government. To avoid the loss of these funds, staff is considering purchasing three or four abandoned homes with significant code violations through a receivership action.

### Code Enforcement Report

The Code Enforcement Division has divided the City into four zones (Areas 1-4) which align with the area command structure of the Police Department. A Code Enforcement Officer has been assigned to each of these zones, with a roving fifth Code Enforcement Officer covering commercial property enforcement (Area 5). A quick summary of the most prevalent code enforcement violations within each zone follows:

Area/Code Officer	Violations	Total Open Calls
Area 1 Officer Chris De Hesa 820-2525 ext. 2071	1. Overgrown and/or Dead Vegetation 2. General Nuisances 3. General Trash and/or Debris 4. Abandoned and/or Illegally Parked Cars	77
Area 2 Officer Teresa Hodge 820-2525 ext. 2072	1. Abandoned and/or Illegally Parked Cars 2. Overgrown and/or Dead Vegetation 3. General Trash and/or Debris 4. Illegal Vendors	130

Area 3 Officer Helen Shepherd 820-2525 ext. 2073	1. General Trash and/or Debris 2. Overgrown and/or Dead Vegetation 3. General Nuisances 4. Abandoned and/or Illegally Parked Cars	144
Area 4 Officer Juan Virgen 421-4975	1. Overgrown and/or Dead Vegetation 2. General Trash and/or Debris 3. General Nuisances 4. Illegal Vendors	66
Area 5 (Commercial Area) Officer Steve Jaramillo 820-8027	Code Enforcement Officer Steve Jaramillo recently completed all NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) inspections and follow-ups. Approximately 500 inspections will have to be performed each year to maintain the mandated program. Steve is beginning citywide commercial property inspections this week.	

Senior Code Enforcement Officer David Hernandez and Officer Chris De Hesa administer the “community service” work release crew four days a week. The projects completed by the Work Release Program in July were:

1. Weekly maintenance of the Skate Park and Gym located at the Johnson Center off Palm Ave.
2. Filling in bare parkways and planters in various locations with decorative wood chips.
3. Assisting a disabled elderly veteran by cleaning up his property.

David Hernandez works half time for the Code Enforcement Division and half time as the Area Command Liaison for the Police Department. His completed special projects in July were:

1. Homeless encampment located behind the Rialto Airport Property. The Homeless individuals were provided with referrals to social service agencies such County Social Services, Adult Protective Services, Pacific Clinics Club House, and the Red Cross.
2. Issuing Citations to Trash/Recycle diggers.
3. Working with several business owners to gain “on-site compliance” with property maintenance issues (color of structures, graffiti, planter issues and parking lot asphalt).

## **Public Works**

### **Park Clean Up Days**

As part of an effort to make the City Parks a better place to play, the Public Works Department is hosting Park Clean-Up Days on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month from January through November 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Come join in the raking, trimming, shoveling, sweeping, painting and trash clean-up alongside City's Workers. The schedule of dates is as follows:

August 10, 2013 .....	Frisbie Park .....	1901 N. Acacia Avenue
September 14, 2013 .....	Birdsall Park .....	2611 N. Linden Avenue
October 12, 2013 .....	Metrolink Station .....	261 S. Palm Avenue
November 9, 2013 .....	Downtown Rialto .....	Riverside & Rialto Avenues

### **Bud Bender Park Rehabilitation**

The City Council has identified a need to improve Bud Bender Park to meet the growing demands of the community. In its 2012/2013 One-Year Action Plan, the City Council described the Project as follows:

The Bud Bender Park Rehabilitation Project includes design work, demolition and renovation work on the Pony League baseball field, spectator areas, snack bar & restroom facilities and parking lot area. Demolition includes portions of the infield surface, spectator area, backstop/fencing, irrigation, snack bar/restrooms and parking lot area. Construction includes grading, irrigation improvements and infield mix; replacement of base pegs, pitching rubber & home plate; replacement of fencing and backstop sections; concrete forming/pouring, installation of lighting, bleacher & bench upgrades and signage.

The Public Works Department will coordinate all phases of this project, which it has identified as the "Bud Bender Park Rehabilitation Project – City Project CB1302". The City is considering funding the project through a U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program, with an estimated construction budget of \$2,000,000.

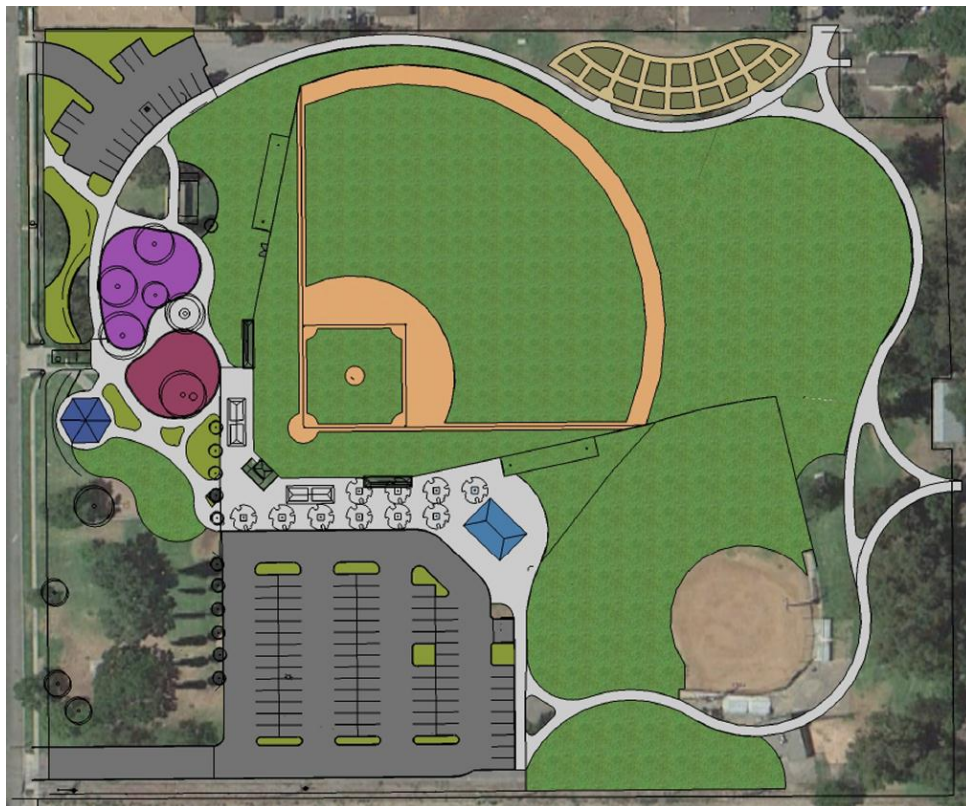
The Project includes the rehabilitation and limited expansion of Bud Bender Park, an approximately 8-acre neighborhood park located at 300 N. Lilac Ave. Existing recreational elements within Bud Bender Park include two lighted baseball fields and one non-lighted pee-wee baseball field, two snack bar/scorer's booth structures, two restroom structures, one picnic shelter, a children's play area, passive park space and two paved parking areas.

Bud Bender Park is home to the Rialto Pony League. The league is active during the traditional spring/summer season and the fall season. Children ages 4 through 6 currently play in the Shetland Division on the pee-wee field, while children ages 7 through 15 currently practice and play league games on the two larger fields. Bud Bender Park also hosts City softball leagues and tournaments during the Pony League's off season.

The City previously conducted public meetings and a Community Workshop for residents to identify amenities to include in Bud Bender Park. As a result, the following list of amenities was identified:

- New Sports Field Lighting
- New Snack Bar
- New Restrooms
- Full ADA Compliance
- Reconstructed/Expanded Parking Lots
- Improved Safety Lighting
- Laser Levelled Infields with new Infield Mix
- New Infield Irrigation Systems
- New Portable Pitching Mounds
- Walking Paths
- Volleyball, Tennis and Soccer Fields
- Splash Pad Area

On April 23, 2013 the City Council awarded a contract to Community Works Design Group (CWDG) to provide the design services for this project. A preliminary site plan has been prepared and is available for review by the public. A copy of the site plan is shown here:



*Bud Bender Park Preliminary Site Plan*

We want your input! The City invites you to participate in three final public meetings to review the plans for Bud Bender Park. The meetings include:

Beautification Commission Thursday, August 8, 2013 6:30 pm	Recreation & Parks Commission Tuesday, September 3, 2013 6:30 pm	City Council Meeting Tuesday, September 10, 2013 6:00 pm
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***Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, 150 S. Palm Avenue.***

Funding is limited, so it is important we know what amenities to include with this project. These public meetings have been scheduled to give you a final opportunity to let us



know what amenities are important. You are encouraged to attend these meetings to voice your opinion on how we improve Bud Bender Park.

### **Riverside Avenue Railroad Bridge Widening Project is Initiated**

The California Department of Transportation ("Caltrans") inspected the existing Riverside Avenue bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad ("UPRR") on November 3, 2011. Caltrans' inspection determined the bridge to be "Structurally Deficient" with a sufficiency rating of 79.0. It is important to note that the term "Structurally Deficient" neither means that the structure itself is at imminent risk of collapse nor represents a risk to public health and safety. The Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") uses the "Sufficiency Rating" (SR) and a status flag indicating whether a bridge is Structurally Deficient ("SD") or Functionally Obsolete ("FO") to establish eligibility for federal funding under the National Highway Performance Program ("NHPP"). Bridges designated SD or FO and the  $SR \leq 80$  are considered deficient by FHWA and are compiled into an "Eligible Bridge List" (EBL). This list is used to calculate the State's annual NHPP apportionment and for determining eligibility for traditional replacement and rehabilitation projects under the NHPP.

The determination to designate a bridge as SD is based on an evaluation of several factors of a bridge's structure during the Caltrans bi-annual inspection. Identifying bridges as SD or FO creates a process to categorize those bridges requiring maintenance beyond standard routine maintenance, allowing the bridge rehabilitation costs to be eligible for federal funding. Given the criteria for the Riverside Avenue bridge defined by the Caltrans Bridge Inspection Report, rehabilitating and widening this bridge is an eligible cost under the NHPP. The NHPP provides federal funding for all eligible costs, at a reimbursement ratio of 88.53%, requiring a local match of 11.47%.

Staff has coordinated with Caltrans to begin the process to secure federal NHPP funds for this project. In order to receive NHPP funds, the City submitted a request to Caltrans to begin preparation of a Project Study Report ("PSR") for the project on February 26, 2013. The purpose of a PSR (an engineering report) is to document agreement on the scope, schedule, and estimated cost of a project so that the project can be considered for inclusion in a future programming document such as the Federal Transportation Improvement Program ("FTIP").

Preparation of a PSR is estimated to cost \$75,000 and Caltrans has agreed to fund \$66,397 (88.53%) of the cost.

The City previously succeeded in coordinating a federal appropriation as part of the previous transportation bill adopted by the U.S. Congress in 2005, the "Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users" (or "SAFETEA-LU"). Within SAFETEA-LU was a listing of "High Priority Projects," where individual U.S. Representatives or Senators would insert projects for funding as part of SAFETEA-LU. The City's U.S. Representative at the time succeeded in including a High Priority Project ("HPP") appropriation of \$400,000 for the City of Rialto as HPP Project No. 855 for "Implement Riverside Avenue Railroad Bridge improvements, south of Interstate 10 in Rialto." Staff is currently programming the HPP funds in the FTIP to facilitate obligation by Caltrans for the City's use as part of the engineering phase of the project.

In its initial request to Congress for the HPP funds, the City proposed to widen the existing Riverside Avenue/UPRR over-crossing bridge to reduce the bottleneck of traffic on the bridge. The recently completed Riverside Avenue/I-10 Interchange project has improved, but not fully alleviated the bottleneck. The intent of this project is to widen (or replace) the existing railroad bridge to facilitate additional lanes of traffic consistent with the recently completed I-10 overpass expansion. This project will provide benefits for both San Bernardino and Riverside Counties by improving traffic flow along this major regional north/south corridor between the counties. It will also provide benefits to commuters and increase the efficiency of truck traffic access through the area.

### Solid Waste Management News

#### **Soles 4 Souls...Special Shoe Collection**

The City of Rialto Waste Management Division would like to extend a big thank you to all the residents who generously donated shoes to the Soles for Souls Special Collection Shoe Drive on Saturday, July 13th. During the event, City staff took in 933 pairs of shoes that were then donated to the Soles 4 Souls organization. We should all take pride in knowing that these shoes will be going to help someone in need.

